

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Office of Childhood  
Office of Special Education

# First Steps SPOE Data Quarterly Report

## March 2024

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, age, veteran status, mental or physical disability, or any other basis prohibited by statute in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Director of Civil Rights Compliance and MOA Coordinator (Title VI/Title VII/Title IX/504/ADA/ADAAA/Age Act/GINA/USDA Title VI), 5th Floor, 205 Jefferson Street, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or TTY 800-735-2966; email [civilrights@dese.mo.gov](mailto:civilrights@dese.mo.gov)

Database as of 3/20/2024

<https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/early-intervention/first-steps>

### Number of Referrals and IFSP Eligibility Rates by Month

SPOE	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Total	Avg. per Month
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	183	167	175	146	149	166	163	149	171	180	144	197	1,990	165.8
Referrals resulting in IFSP	83	78	68	57	80	88	84	70	80	87	72	79	926	77.2
% that went to IFSP	45.4%	46.7%	38.9%	39.0%	53.7%	53.0%	51.5%	47.0%	46.8%	48.3%	50.0%	40.1%	46.5%	
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	191	257	221	261	172	194	248	191	263	221	170	241	2,630	219.2
Referrals resulting in IFSP	78	109	95	113	75	76	105	66	120	79	57	79	1,052	87.7
% that went to IFSP	40.8%	42.4%	43.0%	43.3%	43.6%	39.2%	42.3%	34.6%	45.6%	35.7%	33.5%	32.8%	40.0%	
Northeast (Reg. 3)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	83	99	82	79	73	70	89	81	85	83	55	80	959	79.9
Referrals resulting in IFSP	29	37	28	33	26	28	34	28	35	27	22	23	350	29.2
% that went to IFSP	34.9%	37.4%	34.1%	41.8%	35.6%	40.0%	38.2%	34.6%	41.2%	32.5%	40.0%	28.8%	36.5%	
Northwest (Reg. 4)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	127	124	131	121	130	98	134	83	137	93	102	114	1,394	116.2
Referrals resulting in IFSP	46	46	52	50	49	39	61	36	58	39	52	47	575	47.9
% that went to IFSP	36.2%	37.1%	39.7%	41.3%	37.7%	39.8%	45.5%	43.4%	42.3%	41.9%	51.0%	41.2%	41.2%	
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	204	233	218	227	203	164	224	195	198	196	189	207	2,458	204.8
Referrals resulting in IFSP	88	96	69	94	88	64	94	80	69	68	73	87	970	80.8
% that went to IFSP	43.1%	41.2%	31.7%	41.4%	43.3%	39.0%	42.0%	41.0%	34.8%	34.7%	38.6%	42.0%	39.5%	
Central (Reg. 6)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	120	110	131	142	112	113	155	130	128	120	95	106	1,462	121.8
Referrals resulting in IFSP	46	54	59	58	37	45	70	62	50	46	42	33	602	50.2
% that went to IFSP	38.3%	49.1%	45.0%	40.8%	33.0%	39.8%	45.2%	47.7%	39.1%	38.3%	44.2%	31.1%	41.2%	
Southwest (Reg. 7)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	68	83	76	67	78	62	85	83	66	60	46	77	851	70.9
Referrals resulting in IFSP	37	44	33	30	36	28	41	47	29	32	19	39	415	34.6
% that went to IFSP	54.4%	53.0%	43.4%	44.8%	46.2%	45.2%	48.2%	56.6%	43.9%	53.3%	41.3%	50.6%	48.8%	
South Central (Reg. 8)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	158	137	153	135	138	125	127	151	147	120	120	127	1,638	136.5
Referrals resulting in IFSP	69	52	70	44	55	53	55	67	58	46	48	43	660	55.0
% that went to IFSP	43.7%	38.0%	45.8%	32.6%	39.9%	42.4%	43.3%	44.4%	39.5%	38.3%	40.0%	33.9%	40.3%	
East Central (Reg. 9)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	141	162	130	152	131	128	166	132	137	113	128	137	1,657	138.1
Referrals resulting in IFSP	65	73	55	68	54	51	74	56	55	41	46	52	690	57.5
% that went to IFSP	46.1%	45.1%	42.3%	44.7%	41.2%	39.8%	44.6%	42.4%	40.1%	36.3%	35.9%	38.0%	41.6%	
Southeast (Reg. 10)														
Referrals by SPOE (last 12 months)	107	134	114	104	87	110	115	112	108	94	69	107	1,261	105.1
Referrals resulting in IFSP	48	57	54	40	33	39	45	50	54	40	26	42	528	44.0
% that went to IFSP	44.9%	42.5%	47.4%	38.5%	37.9%	35.5%	39.1%	44.6%	50.0%	42.6%	37.7%	39.3%	41.9%	
Grand Total - Referrals by SPOE	1382	1506	1431	1434	1273	1230	1506	1307	1440	1280	1118	1393	16,300	1358.3
Grand Total - Referral resulting in IFSP	589	646	583	587	533	511	663	562	608	505	457	524	6,768	564.0
% that went to IFSP	42.6%	42.9%	40.7%	40.9%	41.9%	41.5%	44.0%	43.0%	42.2%	39.5%	40.9%	37.6%	41.5%	

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals and include multiple referrals for the same child

IFSP counts are unduplicated

### Primary Referral Sources and IFSP Eligibility Rates Over Last 12 Months

SPOE	Medical Providers	Social Service Agencies	Early Childhood Programs	Parent
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	887	82	156	865
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	362	18	63	483
IFSP Rate	40.8%	22.0%	40.4%	55.8%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,239	133	153	1,105
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	431	23	49	549
IFSP Rate	34.8%	17.3%	32.0%	49.7%
Northeast (Reg. 3)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	587	86	107	179
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	208	19	33	90
IFSP Rate	35.4%	22.1%	30.8%	50.3%
Northwest (Reg. 4)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	624	59	96	615
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	234	9	30	302
IFSP Rate	37.5%	15.3%	31.3%	49.1%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,077	166	207	1,008
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	374	38	83	475
IFSP Rate	34.7%	22.9%	40.1%	47.1%
Central (Reg. 6)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	898	66	149	349
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	351	19	59	173
IFSP Rate	39.1%	28.8%	39.6%	49.6%
Southwest (Reg. 7)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	375	55	148	273
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	146	17	85	167
IFSP Rate	38.9%	30.9%	57.4%	61.2%
South Central (Reg. 8)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	758	200	250	430
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	291	41	98	230
IFSP Rate	38.4%	20.5%	39.2%	53.5%
East Central (Reg. 9)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	814	144	171	528
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	322	24	75	269
IFSP Rate	39.6%	16.7%	43.9%	50.9%
Southeast (Reg. 10)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	681	167	1,566	284
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	286	28	628	161
IFSP Rate	42.0%	16.8%	40.1%	56.7%
Grand Total - Primary Referrals (last 12 months)	7,940	1,158	1,566	5,636
Grand Total - Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	3,005	236	628	2,899
<b>IFSP Rate for Each Referral Source</b>	<b>37.8%</b>	<b>20.4%</b>	<b>40.1%</b>	<b>51.4%</b>
% by Source - Statewide	48.7%	7.1%	9.6%	34.6%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals and include multiple referrals for the same child

IFSP counts are unduplicated

Medical Providers include Hospital (other than NICU), Physician (inc. Psych.), Other health care provider, Public Health Facilities/Providers, and NICU.

Social Service Agencies include DMH, DHSS, CAPTA, Homeless Family Shelters, Domestic Violence Shelters/Agencies, and Social Service Agency (inc Foster Care).

Early Childhood Programs include Parents as Teachers, Head Start/Early Head Start, Other LEA program, Child Care Program/Provider, and MSD/MSB.

### Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Program Eligibility

		Dev. Delay - Half Age	Dev. Delay - ICO*	Medical Condition/Medical Condition - ICO*	Very Low Birth Weight	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	675	120	260	127	1,182
	Percent	57.1%	10.2%	24.5%	10.7%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	825	158	289	186	1,458
	Percent	56.6%	10.8%	20.6%	12.8%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	288	18	116	50	472
	Percent	61.0%	3.8%	31.9%	10.6%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	477	26	150	68	721
	Percent	66.2%	3.6%	19.2%	9.4%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	793	17	258	128	1,196
	Percent	66.3%	1.4%	22.0%	10.7%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	539	33	200	88	860
	Percent	62.7%	3.8%	26.4%	10.2%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	351	36	66	38	491
	Percent	71.5%	7.3%	18.0%	7.7%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	520	82	168	65	835
	Percent	62.3%	9.8%	19.0%	7.8%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	566	33	186	113	898
	Percent	63.0%	3.7%	24.1%	12.6%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	425	18	115	56	614
	Percent	69.2%	2.9%	21.3%	9.1%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	5,459	541	1,808	919	8,727
	Percent	62.6%	6.2%	20.7%	10.5%	100.0%

\* Informed Clinical Opinion (ICO)

### Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Setting\*

		Home	Community Setting	Total Natural Environment Setting	Other**	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	1,091	74	1,165	5	1,170
	Percent	93.2%	6.3%	99.6%	0.4%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	1,353	84	1,437	10	1,447
	Percent	93.5%	5.8%	99.3%	0.7%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	428	38	466	3	469
	Percent	91.3%	8.1%	99.4%	0.6%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	655	57	712	0	712
	Percent	92.0%	8.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	1,103	74	1,177	0	1,177
	Percent	93.7%	6.3%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	762	87	849	0	849
	Percent	89.8%	10.2%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	430	57	487	0	487
	Percent	88.3%	11.7%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	705	117	822	1	823
	Percent	85.7%	14.2%	99.9%	0.1%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	870	24	894	0	894
	Percent	97.3%	2.7%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	555	58	613	0	613
	Percent	90.5%	9.5%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	7,952	670	8,622	19	8,641
	Percent	92.0%	7.8%	99.8%	0.2%	100.0%

\*Does not include children with meetings in ongoing status.

\*\* Other includes Special Purpose Center, Hospital, Residential Facility, and Service Provider Location.

### Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Race

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Total % of Pop	5.11%	4.54%	4.08%	3.59%	3.55%	4.67%	3.91%	3.63%	4.58%	4.21%	4.18%
Asian and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*											
% of Pop.	4.67%	3.00%	0.00%	2.46%	1.62%	2.70%	3.30%	2.05%	2.70%	2.13%	2.91%
Black or African American**											
% of Pop.	5.38%	4.99%	3.80%	4.37%	3.86%	5.93%	4.68%	3.54%	5.66%	5.11%	4.75%
White											
% of Pop.	5.06%	4.41%	4.15%	3.56%	3.60%	4.56%	3.95%	3.72%	4.56%	4.10%	4.14%
Native American or Alaska Native											
% of Pop.	2.25%	3.92%	2.78%	0.57%	0.00%	0.00%	1.56%	1.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.92%

\*Census data (2022 US Census Estimates) combines race categories Asian & Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

\*\*Children with two or more races are included in the Black percent of population.

### Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Ethnicity

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	108	100	22	76	181	86	96	68	45	29	811
Under 3 Pop.	1,521	1,798	523	1,892	5,200	1,273	1,754	1,510	954	707	17,132
% of Pop.	7.10%	5.56%	4.21%	4.02%	3.48%	6.76%	5.47%	4.50%	4.72%	4.10%	4.73%
NOT Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	1,074	1,358	450	645	1,015	774	395	767	853	585	7,916
Under 3 Pop.	21,622	30,301	11,052	18,170	28,497	17,151	10,809	21,481	18,661	13,887	191,631
% of Pop.	4.97%	4.48%	4.07%	3.55%	3.56%	4.51%	3.65%	3.57%	4.57%	4.21%	4.13%

### Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP, Last 12 Months

SPOE	Child Deceased	Completion of IFSP	Moved Out of State	Parent Withdrawn/Withdrawn due to FCP	Pt B Elig in Process	Pt B Inelig Exit to Other/Pt B Inelig Exit w/o Ref	Pt B Ref Refused Parent	Transition to Part B	Unable to Contact/Locate	Grand Total
Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	0.5%	3.9%	3.4%	12.0%	6.5%	12.9%	7.7%	46.7%	6.4%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Region 2)	0.2%	2.3%	3.2%	10.6%	4.8%	12.1%	4.4%	53.1%	9.4%	100.0%
Northeast (Region 3)	0.8%	0.0%	3.1%	15.0%	2.0%	11.9%	2.8%	58.9%	5.4%	100.0%
Northwest (Region 4)	0.3%	1.9%	4.2%	18.4%	3.7%	11.7%	5.9%	49.3%	4.7%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	0.5%	1.6%	6.8%	13.5%	3.6%	9.4%	7.8%	50.9%	5.9%	100.0%
Central (Region 6)	0.0%	0.4%	3.2%	16.0%	3.2%	11.5%	7.2%	54.3%	4.2%	100.0%
Southwest (Region 7)	0.5%	6.4%	3.1%	19.1%	2.1%	6.4%	6.4%	52.0%	3.8%	100.0%
South Central (Region 8)	0.0%	2.7%	3.5%	22.9%	4.0%	8.3%	8.2%	45.5%	5.1%	100.0%
East Central (Region 9)	0.4%	2.6%	4.6%	14.4%	1.4%	11.8%	7.5%	52.8%	4.3%	100.0%
Southeast (Region 10)	0.4%	0.4%	5.1%	18.5%	2.6%	15.0%	9.4%	40.6%	8.1%	100.0%
Statewide %	0.3%	2.3%	4.1%	15.3%	3.8%	11.1%	6.8%	50.2%	6.0%	100.0%

Percentage = Inactivation Reason/Total for each SPOE

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP can include multiple enrollment periods for one child.